

**REMARKS**

In regard to the Examiner's rejection of claim 18 under 35 USC section 112, first paragraph, Applicants note that the specification beginning at page 19 line 14 through page 20 with reference to Figure 6 describes in great detail how the systems and methods of the present invention can be utilized to advantageously control traffic lights for the purpose of increasing safety and the speed with which emergency responders are able to safely travel. Actual a number of different embodiments are described for controlling traffic lights. Accordingly, in light of the foregoing, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw these rejections.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the prior art rejections set forth under 35 USC sections 102 and 103. Applicants respectfully submit that the prior art references of record whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest the presently claimed invention. More specifically, Applicants have modified independent claim 1 to further require that the signal transmitted to the plurality of vehicles includes information concerning the location and/or direction of the emergency vehicle based on actual location information that is derived from GPS data and wherein the alarm signal is selectively generated depending on whether the location and direction of the emergency vehicle with reference to a location and/or direction of the vehicle receiving the signal indicates the emergency vehicle will not be in conflict with the vehicle receiving the signal.

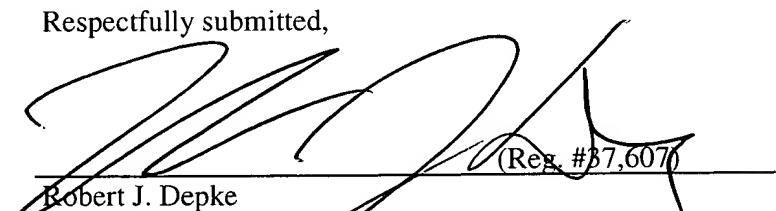
Applicants respectfully submit that the references of record whether considered alone or in combination fail to either teach or suggest the presently claimed subject matter wherein the alarm signal is only generated as necessary such that unnecessary alerts are eliminated as a result of automatically determining that no potential conflict exists such as when the vehicles are traveling in close proximity but in opposite directions or on different roadways which may be adjacent. These examples are described in the specification but the prior art does not teach or suggest this improvement over the prior art emergency vehicle alert systems.

In light of the foregoing, Applicants request that the Examiner now allow all claims in the application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1794.

Date: 3/17/05

Respectfully submitted,



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. O. H." followed by a long, flowing cursive line. Below the signature, the text "Attorney for Applicants" is printed in a smaller, sans-serif font.